Monday, April 25, 2011

LEARNING / H4

A sporting chance through education



SPORTS / A34

Blazers, Mavs level series; Thunder up 3-0

LIFESTYLE / E1

Rare peek at Imelda's Russian icons

LIFESTYLE / C1

A 'balut' seller visits Hong Kong



17 career diplomats appointed envoys

Royal wedding sparks global betting frenzy

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Hope dims for survivors

Dangerous crack may cause new landslides

By Inquirer Mindanao

PANTUKAN, Compostela Valley—Hopes of finding more survivors of the Good Friday landslide in a remote gold mining area here dwindled yesterday as rescuers dug out four corpses from the mud, officially bringing the death toll to five.



LANDSLIDE VICTIM

Magsaysay open to testifying in Gutierrez trial

President hems, haws on Marcos burial site

ANALYSIS



EASTER VIGIL

'URBI ET ORBI'

Pope Benedict urges diplomacy in Libya

Second FrontPage

WEATHER FORECAST



Bishops step up anti-RH fight

ON THE FEAST of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, Catholic bishops in various parts of the country stepped up their campaign against the Reproductive Health (RH) bill.

Anti-Christian'

CHR REPORT

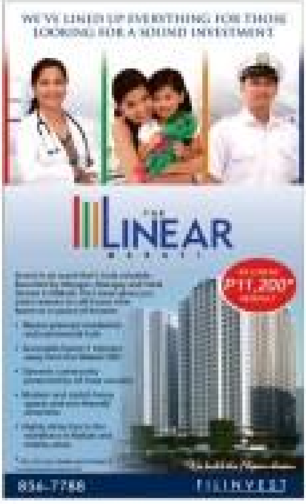
NPA tagged in activists' kidnap

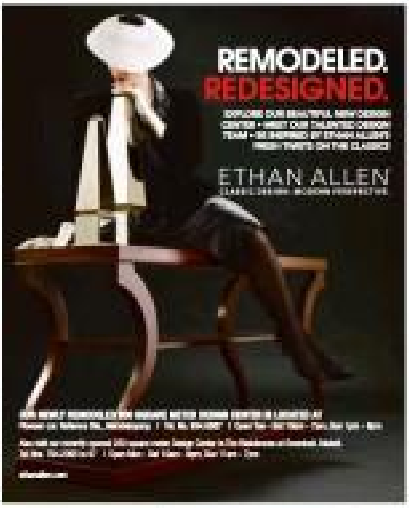






Questioned and tortured







De Lima forms panel to review penal code

By Jerome Aning

JUSTICE Secretary Leila de Lima has formed a panel of experts to undertake a comprehensive review of the decades-old Revised Penal Code.

"Many of our systemic justice issues can be traced to our antiquated general penal law passed way back in 1932 when we were under American occupation," De Lima said in a statement.

The secretary said the panel, to be known as the Criminal Code Committee (CCC), will study the RPC and suggest revisions "to make it more comprehensive and attuned to modern times."

"Over the years, there have been dramatic changes in the nature and types of crimes and there is an urgent need to craft a truly organic, Filipino criminal code attuned to our values and mores," she added.

Legal groups

The CCC will be spearheaded by key justice sector agencies including the Supreme Court, Philippine National Police, National Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Immigration, Public Attorney's Office, Office of the Government Corporate Counsel, Office of the Solicitor General, Parole and Probation Administration and Land Registration Authority.

Major legal groups that are expected to contribute to the revision effort include the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, Philippine Judicial Academy, Philippine Judges Association, Philippine Association of Law Schools and the Regional Prosecutors Council, among others.

De Lima said the Senate and House of Representatives' committees on justice will also be represented in the CCC.

The CCC will also engage resource persons including doctors, psychologists, economists, criminologists and forensic scientists aside from legal luminaries, she added.

The DOJ, however, has yet to name the individuals who will make up the review committee.

According to Justice Assistant Secretary Geronimo Sy the review will take a multidisciplinary approach and will involve consultations, surveys and focus group discussions to harmonize suggested provisions.

All inputs from the CCC will be presented to Congress for the passage of a law revising the RPC.

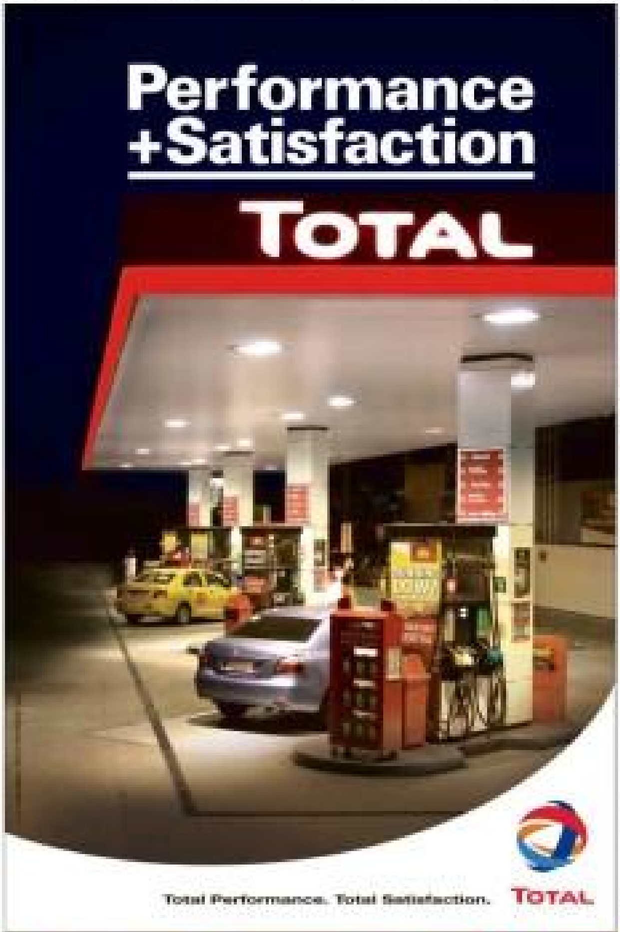
The first major revision of the old Spanish criminal code was undertaken before World War II by a committee led by Judge Anacleto Diaz, who would later become a Supreme Court justice.

Penal Code revised

The Diaz panel began revising the old code in 1927.

The final draft was the basis of Act No. 3815, which was passed by the Philippine legislature and approved by United States President Herbert Hoover on Dec. 8, 1930. The Revised Penal Code came into effect on Jan. 1, 1932.

Through the decades, the Code has been amended by the passage of other laws dealing with offenses from cattle rustling and bouncing checks to terrorism and corruption.





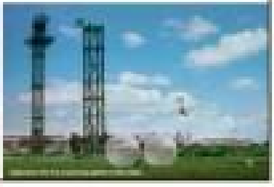




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Pirates free ship, 24 Pinoy sailors





Judas ritual now 'sinbuster'

Modifications





AFP spokesman defends logistics chief

By Dona Pazzibugan

THE SPOKESMAN for the Armed Forces of the Philippines came out swinging in defense of their chief logistics officer who was relieved while under investigation for alleged misuse of the gas allowances of various military units for the first quarter of the year.

AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Eduardo Oban Jr. announced Thursday that he has "temporarily relieved" Commodore Teddy Pan, AFP deputy chief of staff for logistics (J4), pending the internal probe into the expenses for petroleum oil and lubricants recorded by Pan's office from January to March this year.

"Contrary to what other people believe, Commodore Pan is not guilty. He is just requested to step aside so that the investigation can move with dispatch and by stepping aside he has actually given his full cooperation," AFP spokesman Commodore Miguel Rodriguez said Sunday.

"As General Oban had said, 'If you have nothing to hide then you have nothing to fear.' That is the bottom line," Rodriguez added.

The investigation was triggered by news reports that the military, through Pan's office, had recorded some P400 million in petroleum oil and lubricants expenses in the first quarter of the year alone, which is beyond the P1.6-million quota for the quarter.

The sudden increase came in the wake of the exposé made by former military budget officer former Lt. Col. George Rabusa about the systematic illegal conversion of military funds for the personal slush fund of former top officials and budget officers.

While a previous military spokesman said the investigation will not center on Pan, no other officials were relieved.

Rodriguez claimed Pan agreed to be relieved from his post to hasten the probe so he can clear his reputation before he retires in July.

And the military spokesman insisted that the initial investigation belied any irregularities since less than P300 million and not P400 million was spent on gas allowances from January to March this year.

"In case no irregularity was found, since we cannot pinpoint where the irregularity is... You know the reports are coming from the media. We read about them in the media that there are reports of irregularities, that it suddenly reached P400 million," Rodriguez said.

"We were laughing, wrong out, when. 'Where did this P400 million come from?' Because in our mind there is no such thing, because when we looked at their records, what we know is for the first quarter we have not even spent P300 million for POL (petroleum oil and lubricants) for the general headquarters and and the AFP-wide service support.







ANOTHER DEL ROSARIO MISSION

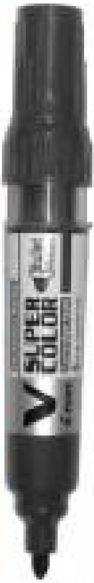
More Pinoys rescued from Libyan city

Manila-bound

Libyan consent

'Missing' Pinoy nurses

Embassy assistance







DFA hails PH-Malaysia joint commission meeting

Transition woes for Subic locators

Cash-strapped

Outgoing officials



BLAZING FAST IN BORACAY
SMART Communications chief wireless adviser Orlando B. Vea demonstrates Smart's LTE (Long Term Evolution), the country's first real 4G mobile network, to a group of tourists on Boracay island during the Holy Week. Vacationers on the country's top summer hotspot became the first to experience what Smart described as the world's fastest mobile broadband technology. LTE is popularly referred to as fourth generation mobile technology which is expected to initially give users Internet speed of up to 50mbps. Smart said it has recorded speeds in excess of 60mbps, outpacing the 3G and HSPA mobile networks being used in the country today.

Palace moves Earth Day to today

UNLIKE other nations, the country will celebrate Earth Day today after the Palace moved it from April 22 Good Friday.

President Aquino issued administrative order 13 directing all activities for the annual commemoration of Earth Day to be held on the first working day after the Holy Week, instead of April 22, according to Executive Secretary Paquito Ochoa Jr.

A check with Malacañang showed that President Aquino will not preside over any Earth Day activity today.

DepEd pushes kindergarten for 5-year-olds

By [illegible]

THE DEPARTMENT of Education (DepEd) hopes for the passage of a bill institutionalizing free public kindergarten in time for the new school year as the measure took another step forward in Congress this month.

Upon endorsement by the House of Representatives, the Senate recently approved a bill integrating kindergarten into formal basic schooling. The measure aims to better prepare 5-year-olds for entry into grade school in hopes of preventing early dropout incidence.

[illegible]

[illegible]

"The passage of this measure in the Senate will surely show the commitment of our partners in Congress to our Philippine Education for All agenda which aims, among others, to achieve universal primary education for our children," said the official.

While the bill remains pending, DepEd has initiated steps to expand the public kindergarten program before school opens in June. Earlier this year, DepEd issued a nationwide call for parents to register their 5-year-olds in the kindergarten program.

[illegible]

[illegible]



SALUBONG A girl playing as an angel removes the black veil on Virgin Mary during the traditional "Salubong" on Easter Sunday to celebrate the resurrection of Christ in Sto. Domingo Church in Quezon City.

17 career diplomats named envoys

Frontpage A1

Choice positions were filled earlier by political appointees, including former Manila Electric Co. president Manuel Lopez who was named ambassador to Japan, and former Central Bank Gov. Jose L. Cuisia Jr. as ambassador to the United States.

The latest appointees included Jose Brillantes Malaya III, spokesperson of the Department of Foreign Affairs who was designated ambassador to Malaysia.

The other nominated ambassadors included Belen Anota (Australia), Victoria Bataclan (Belgium), Leslie Gatan (Canada), Wilfredo Moreno (Cuba), Cristina Ortega (France), Ma. Cleofe Natividad (Germany), Meynardo Montealegre (Greece), Homer Ignacio Elmaguerta (Iran/?), Generoso Calonge (Israel), George Reyes (Mexico), Leandro Mendoza (Netherlands), Virginia Benavidez (New Zealand), Reynaldo Almeda (Norway), Eduardo Manuel (Poland), Leslie Baja (Switzerland) and Enrique Manalo (United Kingdom).

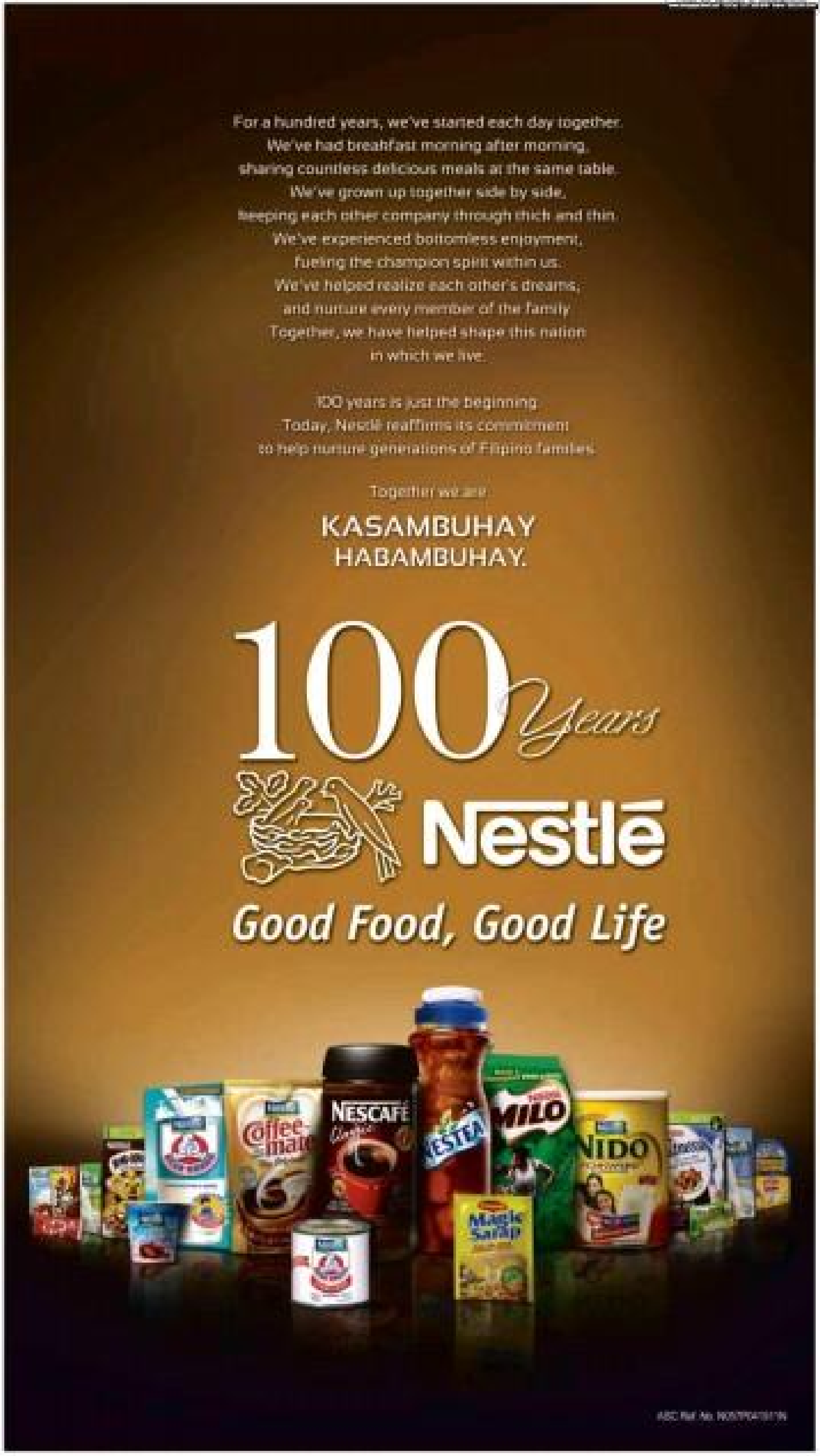
Junever Victor Leoblin, president of the Union of Foreign Service Officers of the Philippines, welcomed the nominations, saying they were an affirmation of Mr. Aquino's "support, trust and confidence in the career foreign service corps."

Acting Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario earlier said he planned to recommend the least number of political appointees to head diplomatic missions.

The Palace also announced the appointments of three political affairs undersecretaries—Vincente Dizon, Duero Gutierrez III and Jose Luis Gascon, a Liberal Party stalwart and former education official in the Arroyo administration.

Rafael Alberi and Jose Emmanuel Borres were named assistant secretaries in the political affairs office, while Reynaldo Flores and Anna Maria Mae de la Vega were both designated director III.

Telesforo Ramirez was named member of the board of directors of Philippine National Oil Co. Shipping and Transport Corp., Antonieta Ilo as member of board of trustees and administrator of the Local Water Utilities Administration, and Danilo Augusto Francia as assistant secretary of the Department of National Defense. *With a report from Jerry E. Esplanada*


For a hundred years, we've started each day together.
We've had breakfast morning after morning,
sharing countless delicious meals at the same table.
We've grown up together side by side,
keeping each other company through thick and thin.
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fueling the champion spirit within us.
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and nurture every member of the family.
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in which we live.
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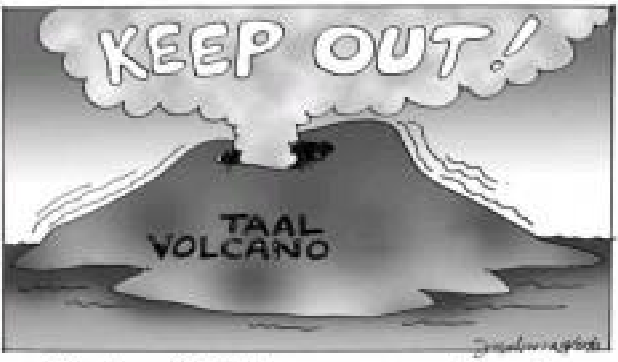
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Valley of death

EDITORIAL

[illegible]



Finally, a GOCC that earns money for gov't

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

[illegible]

Deaths and resurrections

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

[illegible]

Synchronizing ARMM elections

SOUNDING BOARD
Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.



If the ARMM offices become vacant starting Sept. 30, 2011, how should these vacancies be filled?

The ignorance is invincible

KRIS-CROSSING MINDANAO
Antonio J. Montalvan II



The meaning of Chernobyl

WORLD VIEW
Yuliya Tymoshenko



'One Solitary Life'

REVEILLE
Ramon J. Farolan



THEY SAID

Unfair to Willie

The INQUIRER is a member of the PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE

Who bribed Garcia?

LETTERS

Hearings on plea bargain deal good for country

Doronila analysis out of place on front page

SSS: Member's pension will be duly adjusted

Robredo wants inventory of local roads for rehab plan

By Marlon Ramos

INTERIOR Secretary Jesse Robredo has ordered an inventory of all municipal and provincial roads to help the government map out a nationwide road rehabilitation plan.

"We want to complete and update the road database so that it can be an effective tool in monitoring local road network conditions and developing assistance to LGUs [local government units]," Robredo in his directive.

So far, less than a third or 421 out of 1,511 municipalities in the country have submitted a report on the conditions of their local roads to the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG).

Robredo also said only 5,341, or about 13 percent, of 42,025 barangay councils had furnished the DILG's Office of Project Development Services copies of their accounting of local road projects.

The Philippines has some 210,000 kilometers of road networks.

About 86 percent—or some 181,283 km—of these roads are maintained by the different local government units, from provincial to barangay level.

According to the interior secretary, the submission of road inventories is stipulated in the Local Government Code of 1991.

Citing Section 524 of the law which created LGUs, the Interior said provincial and city governments should submit their report annually while municipal and barangay officials must turn in their road inventories every three years.

He said the inventories of road networks will be incorporated in the DILG's Local Road Database Project.

The reports will be used in the government's allocation of funds for rehabilitation and improvement under the Special Local Road Fund (SLRF).

Robredo said SLRF was "intended to assist local government units in the maintenance of provincial and city roads as feasible."

"The local roads database will be very useful to government policy and program planners as this will help them develop the necessary interventions and seek funds such as the SLRF to improve our local roads," Robredo said.

He said other government agencies, researchers and private individuals may access the database for their own use.





Across the NATION

9 drown in 5 incidents during Lent

Capiz church bell is 300 years old



HOMETOWN *Snapshot*

NINE people drowned during the Lenten break in Nueva Ecija, Calapan City and Isabela, police said.



Pilgrims flock to Lucban shrine

Devotees climb 7-floor tower

[illegible]



[illegible]







Pope Benedict urges diplomacy in Libya conflict

From page B1

"In all the countries of North Africa and the Middle East, may all citizens, especially young people, work to promote the common good and to build a society where poverty is defeated and every political choice is inspired by respect for the human person," the Pope said.

Europe has been split over whether to accept or deport tens of thousands of migrants, many of them from Libya and elsewhere in North Africa, who have been flooding European shores to flee unrest and bloodshed.

Benedict rallied to the side of the refugees, saying "may people of good will open their hearts to welcome them."

Reconciliation, pardon

The Pope's traditional "Urbi et Orbi" message to the city of Rome and the world also called on Ivory Coast to "tread the path of reconciliation and pardon."

He also prayed that Japan find consolation as it reels from the devastation from an earthquake and tsunami.

While choir voices rang out across the cobblestone square in late morning Mass, thousands of people were still arriving, filling the boulevard leading from the Tiber to the Vatican.

By the time the Pope delivered his speech, well over 100,000 people had thronged to the area.

Resplendent in gold-colored robes, Benedict led the ceremony from an altar set up on the steps of St. Peter's Basilica, under a red canopy to shield him from rain or sun. Skies over the Vatican alternated between clouds and patches of sun.

The 84-year-old Benedict looked relaxed, although his voice cracked a bit as he intoned prayers during the sung parts of the Mass.

On Easter Sunday, St. Peter's Square was a riot of color, with rows of flowers in full bloom, red-hatted cardinals and tourists waving scarves and flags from their homelands.

The blossoms seemed almost as numerous as the faithful. The Dutch suppliers of the floral decorations said some 42,000 potted plants studded the square.

The flowers included 500 potted hyacinths, 150 lily plants, 1,000 off-white roses, tulips, and 10,000 narcissus plants, many of them in yellow and white, the official Vatican colors, and arranged in neat rows up the steps toward the altar.

After the Gospel was read, selected faithful came up to the Pope who accepted their symbolic offertory gifts.

Seated at the altar, Benedict smiled warmly as three young Italian girls, wearing perfectly pressed Easter dresses, struggled to kneel neatly before him. They were presented for their [illegible] to the Pope.

Benedict prayed aloud that Easter would help believers testify to their faith with "words and life."

Shoring up flagging faith in much of the Western world has been a key goal of the Vatican, both under Benedict and his predecessor, John Paul II.

Benedict will return to the square in exactly one week to lead a crowd expected to be at least double Easter's turnout when he beatifies John Paul II, putting the Polish-born, long-serving Pontiff on the last formal step before eventual sainthood.

Easter Vigil

During Easter Vigil on Saturday, the Pope marked the holiest night of the year for Christians by stressing that humanity isn't a random product of evolution.

In his homily, Benedict emphasized the Biblical account of creation, saying it was wrong to think at some point "in some tiny corner of the cosmos, there evolved randomly some species of living being capable of reasoning and of trying to find rationality within creation, or to bring rationality into it."

"If man were merely a random product of evolution in some place on the margins of the universe, then his life would make no sense or might even be a chance of nature," he said. "But no, reason is there at the beginning: creative, divine reason." AP

House panel to look into Merci's funds

Magsaysay open to testifying in Gutierrez trial



MAGSAYSAY

No. 1 article

Hope dims for landslide survivors



Royal wedding sparks global betting frenzy

Elton John, Beckhams on royal wedding guest list



SMART Gilas' Marcus Douthit (front) tries to recover the loose ball against Barangay Ginebra import Nate Brumfield.

Gin Kings gain finals, oust PH 5

By Musong R. Castillo

[illegible]

President hems, haws on Marcos burial site

[illegible]

Outrageous, offensive

[illegible]

Hemmed and hawed

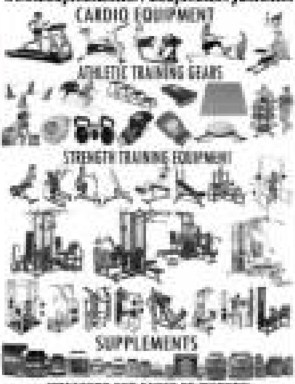
[illegible]

Shrine of shame

[illegible]

Using Binay to take flak

[illegible]






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Aplus **METRO**
Editor Abelardo S. Ulanday

Did you know

[illegible]



GMA 7 radio employee stabbed dead

By Niña Calleja

AN EMPLOYEE of GMA 7's AM radio station was killed on Black Saturday when a drunken man went on a stabbing spree in an alley full of people in Caloocan City.

Edwin Ramos, 47, a program coordinator of dzBB, died at Jose Reyes Memorial Medical Center (JRRMMC) in Sta. Cruz, Manila, due to a stab wound in the abdomen.

Two more people identified as Marvin Sarza, 37, and Emiliano Rio, 54, were wounded and remain confined at Tondo General Hospital.

According to PO2 Romeo Bautista, one of the case investigators, the stabbing took place at around 8 p.m. on Saturday in Salinda Alley in Bagon Barrio, Caloocan City.

People were walking in the area when Cesar Bagsic, 25, a resident of Barangay Bagon who was drunk, took out two double-edged knives and threatened to kill everyone in sight, Bautista said.

He added that Bagsic first stabbed Rio in the back and later turned on Ramos who was trying to pacify him.

He then attacked Sarza before he escaped, Bautista said.

The three victims were rushed to Tondo General Hospital but doctors turned away Ramos who had to be transferred to JRRMMC.

In a phone interview, Ramos' partner, Susan Morales, 47, said the staff of Tondo General Hospital refused to admit him because their operating rooms were supposedly full.

"We begged them to take him in and treat him. But they insisted [that] we should bring him to another hospital. They [didn't] even have an ambulance," she said in between sobs.

She added that Ramos had to be transported to JRRMMC in a tricycle.

However, he died shortly after admission.

Bagsic, on the other hand, fled after he learned that the police were looking for him.

Ramos, a resident of Barangay Tugatog in Malabon City was just visiting Morales in Caloocan City when he was stabbed.

Morales said they were supposed to get married but Ramos

[illegible]







WHAT RAIN?
Members of the Philippine Coast Guard keep an eye on people who insist on swimming in Manila Bay on Easter Sunday despite a ban imposed by the city government due to the high level of contaminants in the water.

Trigger-happy cop hunted

By Penelope P. Endozo

'Mercury vapor levels above normal in Tondo'

By Jaymee T. Gamil

Above permissible rates

Handle with care

5 Manila policemen sanctioned

By Jaymee T. Gamil



SUNDAY AT THE PARK
A boy arches his head back as he rides on the swing at the Quezon City Memorial Circle.

Solon: Probe LRT, MRT accidents

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

MetroBriefs

1 dead in shooting in QC

Nancy C. Carvajal

Lawman wounded in ambush

Penelope P. Endozo

GMA 7 radio employee ...

Citizen's call

Burst apartment still standing

Stolen cell phones for sale

Traffic blamed on FX terminal

Taxi runs out of receipts



KILLING THE COMPETITION

Blind traffic enforcers

Residents at risk from fumes

MMDA sees need for centralized PUV terminals to ease traffic flow

Gunman in BIR exec's killing refuses to talk

Republic of the Philippines
ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Worsening turmoil: Syria forces fire guns on mourners

INVITATION TO BID

To supply the electricity requirements of Albay Electric Cooperative, Inc. (ALECO)

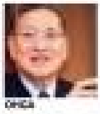
ALBAY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY

WorldBriefs

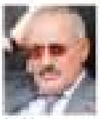
Thai, Cambodian troops trade fire anew in border row

Ex-Sony chief Norio Ohga, father of the CD, dies at 81


OHGA

India probe finds corruption in aviation industry

Saleh agrees to quit in return for immunity



SALEH

The WORLD

Libyan forces withdraw from Misrata

BENGHAZI, Libya—In a sudden shift after nearly two months of heavy siege, government forces withdrew from the eastern city of Misrata on Saturday.



A LIBYAN rebel fighter looks out from a high building in the besieged city of Misrata, Libya on April 23.

Japan to send 25,000 troops to search for quake bodies

WHAT'S INSIDE



■ Azkals boost coaching staff /A33

SPORTS

Editor Teodoro S. Melendres
Assistant Editor Francis T. J. Ochoa



■ Roy blazes back to life as Portland nips Dallas /A34



SHAKEY'S V-LEAGUE

FEU ousts SSC in upset

By Cedelf P. Tupas

BEFORE PLAYING San Sebastian yesterday, Far Eastern U coach Nestor Pamilar put the game against the Lady Stags under protest for going beyond the limit of foreigners in their squad.

The Lady Tamaraws then settled the issue on the court.

Finally getting their acts together, the Lady Tamaraws sent the Lady Stags packing with a [illegible] to advance to the quarterfinals of the [illegible]

PAGE A33





FEU, State U collide today

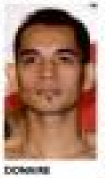


'Tourists' going to SEAG?

CLEAN LIVING



Darchinyan scores KO, eyes Donaire



DONAIRE

FEU ousts SSC

Pinoy GMs crush Iran's lady chessers

Still passionate about basketball

INSIDE SPORTS



Ronnie Nathanielsz



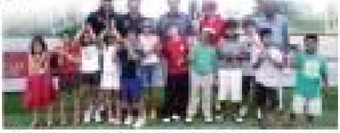
Lascuña hangs on to top 10 with 73



Azkals boost coaching staff

NZ golf: Agojo leads PH charge

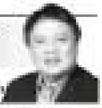
World Junior qualifier tees off at S'woods

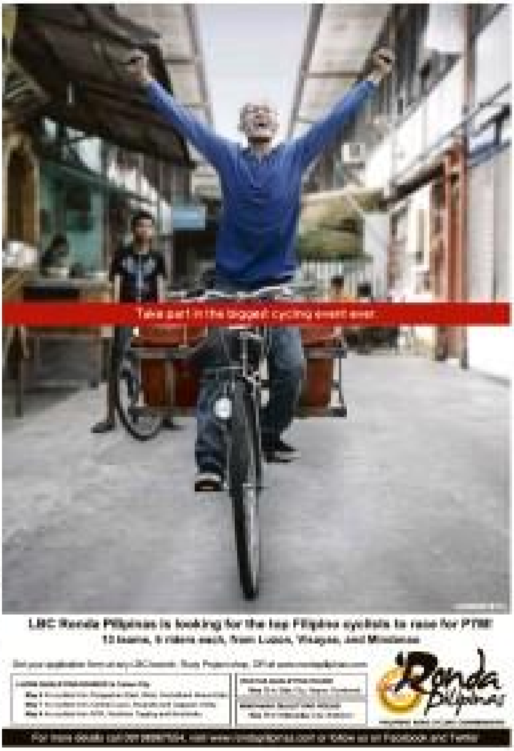




Sports in the soul of Korea

One Game at a Time







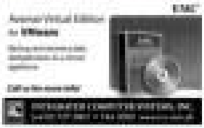


SPORTS

Roy blazes back to life as Portland nips Dallas



New recruits shine for Ready2Race



BUSINESS



Cement demand up; firm eyes $500-M plant

Holcim sees jump in infra spending

By Doris C. Dumlao

CEMENT MANUFACTURER Holcim Philippines is planning to invest around $500 million in a new local cement plant to cater to a potential spike in demand in the years ahead given opportunities in infrastructure spending and private construction activities.

INDICATORS

PESO-DOLLAR RATE

43.275



STOCK MARKET

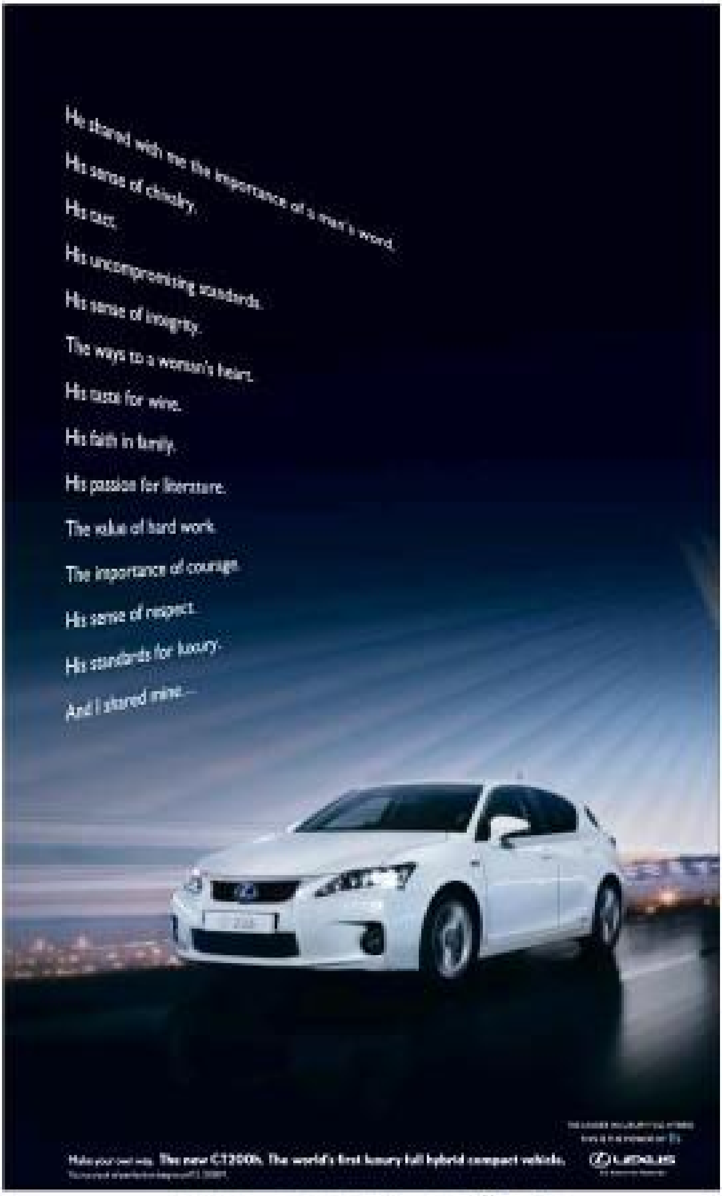
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Upbeat trading seen

IN THIS ISSUE

- **Biz Buzz:** Those anti-BSP ads /B3
- **Q1 budget gap** seen to be way below cap of ₱112B /B9





Foreign firms favored in LRT-MRT bidding

Gov't likely to choose bidder with best track record

Cement demand up

Upbeat trading seen

Those anti-BSP ads

Biz Buzz

by the staff

Horse trading

Speaking of which...

6 wind ...



Business



6 wind farms seen to rise in Ilocos Norte

Province bids to become haven for renewable energy facilities







BUSINESS



Air travel sector seen weathering global storm

Healthy competition among PH airlines keeps industry afloat

By Paolo G. Montecillo

Japan exports rose 23.3% in February

By Abigail L. Ho





DEL MONTE FRESH PRODUCE (PHILS.), INC.

Junior Financial Analyst

Taguig-based

Position Details

Purchasing Officer

Davao-based

Position Details

Human Resources

Del Monte Fresh Produce (Phils.) Inc.

TANAY WATER DISTRICT

FOR EMPLOYMENT

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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PUBLIC NOTICES

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

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More Classifieds on pages

Henkel Asia A26

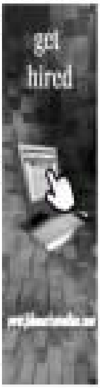
Albay Elec. Cooperative A28

National Food Authority A28

Visayan Electric A28

Bohol I Elec. Cooperative A29

Prov'l. Gov't. of Capiz A29



OBITUARIES

Message of Thanks

SALVADOR NAVARRO LORENZANA

Died in the Grace of the Lord at the age of 51.

His bereaved mother ELISA N. LORENZANA, father LUIS S. LORENZANA (†), brothers: MANNY, BOBBIE, JOHNNY, DAVID, RANDY, ARTHUR; sisters: CYNTHIA, MARILU, ANGIE, MARISSA; brother-in-law: ROMMEL; sisters-in-law: ALMA, MYLES and JANET; nephews, nieces and relatives wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and sincerest appreciation to all those who offered masses and prayers, sent flowers, and messages of sympathy, and who, in countless ways, comforted with and comforted us in our hour of bereavement.

CRISOSTOMO "CRIS" M. DE LUNA

Retiree of Scientific Data Bank/ United Laboratories, Inc.

Peacefully joined his Creator on April 21, 2011 at the age of 75.

His body lies in state at No. 2686 San Paulino St., Tagas, Daraga, Albay. Date of interment at Preview Memorial Park, Daraga Albay to be announced later.

Jonalyn Torrefiel Bordon



Asset price bubbles in PH: An empty threat?

Country's macro fundamentals still strong, gov't officials say

By Michelle V. Remo

Inflated prices

Market crash

Surge in inflows

> 'We don't see any sign as yet of any incipient asset price bubble,' says BSP Deputy Governor Diwa Guinigundo

No such threat

No misalignments

Outlook

Foreign capital

Business

Peso depreciates against other Asia currencies

BSP not inclined to intervene in foreign exchange market

PH cancels Canadian firm's mining deals

PH lags region in use of banking analytics



Business

Q1 budget gap seen to be way below cap of ₱112B



DATELINE WASHINGTON Finance Secretary Cesar V. Purisima (left) talks to World Bank officials about the government's fiscal reform efforts during a meeting in Washington, DC. On his left is Finance Undersecretary Rosalia V. de Leon.

Wind projects win over foreign firms





Phoenix to offer debt paper worth P5B in May

Oil retailer considers mix of 5- and 7-year bonds

[illegible]

Trans-Asia expanding electricity business

[illegible]

CebuPac aims to hit 12M passengers

[illegible]

Investors seen going for stocks, bonds

[illegible]

Philippine Stock Exchange

[illegible]

Currencies

[illegible]

US Fed not likely to tighten key rate policy

Authorities to debate next steps during policy meeting

Dubai ruler's firm said to have bigger debt woes



China's super-rich seen to fuel wealth management boom

In China, foreign firms face uneven playing field

White House in a pickle over its GM exit plan

InfoTech

RIM threatens to take thunder away from Apple

IT TOOK a while for the makers of Blackberry to join the tablet race, but now that they have, Research In Motion has done so in a big way.



BLACKBERRY Playbook

To catch consumers' eye, HP touches up PCs



In cloud computing, risks may soon outstrip benefits



Snap one minute, upload the next



SAMSUNG SH100

BUSINESS *Monday*



OFW remittances for local development pushed

Western Union bankrolls novel project to use overseas funds more effectively



Filipino women financially literate, says new study

Risks in risk management

MAPping THE FUTURE

Antonio T. Hernandez



Filipino women financially literate, says new study



OFW remittances for local development pushed



Credit Card *to the* MAX

E-mail: supplements@inquirer.com.ph

Enjoy more benefits, exclusive privileges with co-branded credit cards

By Joel V. Nigos

ONE OF the biggest trends in the credit card industry today is the introduction of co-branded credit cards. These credit cards provide the same benefits as the plain-vanilla credit card in addition they also offer exclusive perks and privileges to the cardholder.

In the Philippines, they are often associated with retail establishments, airline or petroleum companies as cardholders are rewarded with free flights via accumulation of air miles, shopping and fuel rebates and discounts on merchants as well as merchant partners with every spend using the co-branded credit card.

According to MasterCard, a leading global payments company, there is power in co-branding. In its survey findings on co-branded cards as provided by Nelson Reports, it says that co-branded credit cards comprise 55 percent of all credit card spending, co-branded credit cardholders outspend their counterparts by approximately $4,000 per year (US data), co-branded credit cards drive usage and preference as consumers seek to "get something back" for their business and loyalty, and co-branded card spend is growing at a faster rate than that of non-co-branded cards.

It adds that co-branded credit cards also increase loyalty among cardholders, they attract promising new customers, and they help keep the company the top-of-mind among customers.

Generally, co-branded cards offer exclusive perks that are tailor fit to their cardholders' consumption habits. Below is the list of some of the co-branded credit cards that are offered in the country along with their distinct advantages:

Fuel/motorist credit cards:

Metrobank Toyota MasterCard
- Marketed as the first complete motorist card
- A loyalty card, discount card and international credit card in one
- 3-percent fuel rebate at Petron gasoline stations
- 10 discount on parts, accessories, service and labor at Toyota dealers
- 24-hour roadside assistance care of Busa Autoassist (tel. no. 751-0588)

Petron-BPI MasterCard
- Marketed as the full service motorist card
- 3-percent fuel rebate at Petron gasoline stations
- 10 discount on labor and automotive services at participating Petron service stations
- 24-hour towing service and roadside assistance care of Busa Autoassist (tel. no. 751-0588)
- 24-hour price shield coupons

Shell-Citi Visa
- Provides the highest fuel rebate in the market
- 5-percent fuel rebate on Shell gasoline stations
- 0.5-percent rebate on non-fuel purchases
- Discounts at Shell Helix Center
- 24-hour nationwide emergency roadside assistance for emergency towing service and minor on-site assistance through International SOS (tel. no. 633-7090)

HSBC Credit Cards
- Though HSBC does not have a co-branded credit card with Caltex Philippines, all HSBC credit cards (Premier MasterCard, Platinum Visa, Red MasterCard, Classic and Gold Visa, Advance Credit Card) provide 5-percent fuel rebate at Caltex gasoline stations

Mileage credit cards:

Allied Bank Mabuhay Miles World MasterCard
- In partnership with Philippine Airlines
- Provides the lowest spend to mile conversion rate
- P30 spend = one Mabuhay mile
- Free access to the Mabuhay Lounge
- 5kg free baggage allowance
- Priority check-in

BPI Skymiles MasterCard
- In partnership with Delta Airlines
- Offers BPI Skymiles MasterCard and BPI Skymiles Platinum MasterCard
- P45 spend = one Skymile
- Earn double points for every purchase of Delta Air Lines tickets
- Free access to the Delta Sky Club at NAIA
- Up to P20 million travel insurance coverage

Citibank PremierMiles Card
- Earned miles never expire
- P45 spend = one PremierMile
- Over 50 airline partners
- Free access to the PAGSS Lounge at NAIA (Citibank PremierMiles Platinum cardholders may bring in one guest free)
- Travel accident insurance up to P20 million and travel inconvenience protection up to P60,000 for missed flight, delayed or lost luggage
- 24-hour concierge service (including travel assistance for airline and hotel reservations, travel guide and tips (tel. no. 687-9988)

American Express Cathay Pacific Credit Card
- Tailor made for travelers and members of The Marco Polo Club and Asia Miles
- Complimentary Green Tier membership to The Marco Polo Club, Asia Miles discount and travel insurance coverage
- P45 spend = one Asia Mile

HSBC Credit Cards
- HSBC has a mileage credit card in Mabuhay Miles Visa which is in partnership with Philippine Airlines but this will be discontinued effective July 31, 2011. Though it will no longer have a co-branded credit card with any airline company, all HSBC credit cardholders (Premier MasterCard, Platinum Visa, Red MasterCard, Classic and Gold Visa, Advance Credit Card) can still earn mileage points via Mabuhay Miles. They can also use their points to redeem KrisFlyer or Asia Miles.
- P20 spend = one Bonus point; four Bonus points = one Mabuhay mile



Retail/shopping credit cards:

Citibank Rustan's Platinum Visa
- 5-percent rebate at Rustan's Supermarket (Fresh and Supervalue) and Shopwise
- Up to 3-percent rebate (for Platinum Visa) and 2-percent rebate (for Gold Visa) at Rustan's Department Stores and Beauty Specialists Inc.
- 0.5-percent rebate on other purchases

Citibank Mercury Drug Visa
- 2-percent rebate on all Mercury Drug purchases (equivalent to 4 times Suki points)
- 0.5-percent rebate on non-Mercury Drug purchases (equivalent to one Suki point)
- Exclusive discounts at merchant partners like hospitals and medical clinics, health and beauty establishments, medical services and retail wellness firms

E-mail the author at jnigos@inquirer.com.ph



From left: TMP senior EVP Dr. Dan Uy, TMP president Michinobu Sugata, MCC president Riko Abdurrahman and MCC deputy card head Peachie Corona.

Metrobank Card unveils country's first complete motorist card

When leaders come together, the results are rather remarkable. When reputable firms form a partnership, consumers benefit immensely.

That's exactly what happened when three industry leaders — Metrobank Card Corporation (MCC), MasterCard, and Toyota Motor Philippines — joined forces to create the new Toyota MasterCard.

Highly touted as the country's first complete motorist card, the new Toyota MasterCard is a loyalty card, discount card, and international credit card in one. It gives cardholders perks and privileges which include generous rewards points as well as discounts on parts, accessories, service, and labor at Toyota dealers. Moreover, cardholders get a 3-percent rebate on fuel purchases at over 400 Petron gas stations and 24-hour roadside assistance, among other benefits.

MCC president Riko Abdurrahman lauded the partnership of industry leaders, saying, "This will definitely benefit cardholders and Toyota car owners in ways that motorists have not experienced before."

"The first of its kind in the Philippines, Toyota MasterCard is the result of the solid partnership and collective expertise of three reputable companies — the country's number one automotive company, Toyota Motor Philippines, global payments provider, MasterCard, and one of the country's leading credit card issuers, Metrobank Card Corporation," he stressed.

"It is a testament to the fact that with Metrobank Card, in partnership with these outstanding companies, our cardholders will always be in good hands," Abdurrahman continued.

Enhance your drive with the country's first complete motorist card. To know more about the new Toyota MasterCard, visit your preferred Toyota dealer or call Metrobank Card at 8-700-700 today.

Bills payment: An easy and safe way to settle your utility bills



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Lifestyle Arts & Books



AN EASTER STORY

A 'balut' seller visits Hong Kong

By [illegible]
Contributor

HONG KONG—Statue Square is a legendary place for Filipino domestic helpers about to arrive in Hong Kong for the first time. Its reputation as a meeting place for the Filipino community is well-known. There are similar meeting places in other cities worldwide where Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) thrive.

Statue Square is an actual square with 1960s-styled fountains, seating and space located directly in front of the head office of architect Norman Foster's futuristic looking Hong Kong Bank building.

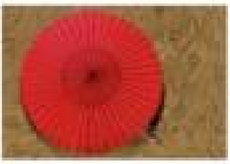
The main feature of the square is the "Black Man"—a statue of a long-forgotten Hong Kong Bank manager whose bronze statue was painted with a protective black sealant 12 years ago, thus, the name.

Statue Square is technically the area in front of the Hong Kong Bank building, but in parlance, it refers to a wider area roughly bounded by the Filipino businesses found in Worldwide House, in the middle of Hong Kong's Central Business District, then snaking around the Legislative Council building, through nearby Chater Garden, and spread-

BALUT C2



PERFORMANCE [illegible]

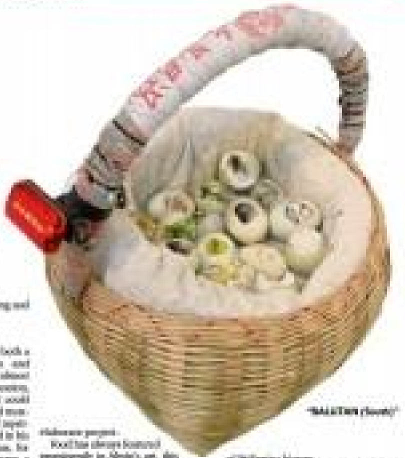


A 'balut' seller visits Hong Kong



FROM "THE TRANSCULTURAL Balut" Series

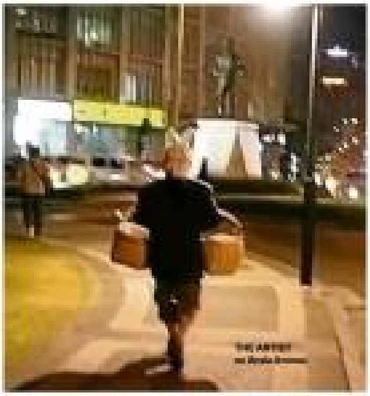




Vital artist

Communal work

Shamanistic performance



THE ARTIST



French pianist comes to Manila for benefit concert



LAURE Favre-Kahn

FEU supports restoration of Metropolitan Theater



Tony Mabesa directs 'Fake,' a new Floy Quintos play

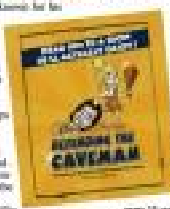




One-man comedy show 'Defending the Caveman' returns May 6-21



JOEL Trinidad




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LIFESTYLE Arts&Books

Pinoy grabs lead role in Chicago staging of 'King and I'





JAY ESPAÑO: "I wasn't stuck with the default stereotype as portrayed by Yul Brynner. I think there were moments in the reading that I made the king likable and humorous, rather than making him a stern despot."

Continuous learning

Roots


"GOLDEN Harvest," by Michael Blanco


"GUITAR," by Ed Tordo



Angono artists join Vigan festival


ANGONO Artists Association

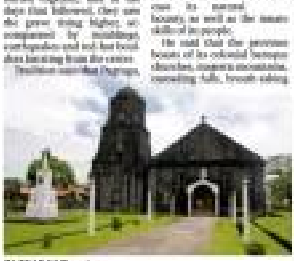


Albay relives legend of Mayon






POTTERY from Tiwi



Why Easter matters

By Ardy Roberto
Contributor

Book on Philippine social movements off the press



Pinoy grabs lead role in Chicago staging of 'King and I'



UST holds 3rd national criticism workshop








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LIFESTYLE Arts&Books



VIRGIN of Don

Rare peek at Imelda Marcos' Russian icons

Photo exhibit shows ancient Orthodox icons

By Angelica Bautista
Contributor

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC exhibit "Beloved Mother: Icon of Devotion" reintroduces to a new generation of Filipinos the Russian Orthodox Church icons or religious images acquired by Imelda Marcos during the Marcos years for the Metropolitan Museum.

They're now part of the collection of the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG).

The icons—along the Mother and Child genre—are made of egg tempera and oil on wood,

PAGE E3



THE Virgin of Tikhvin

Being Borlongan

By Jessica Jalandoni-Rebillo
Contributor

IN EXCLUSION is completion. Such explains the absence of hair on Elmer Borlongan's male subjects. With the absence, the expressions of the figures are made more manifest.

Baldness also affords his characters a homogeneous look. Their bare-scalped crowns elicit empathy from the viewer. This unmistakable pull is ever apparent in "Karyuman," Borlongan's latest body of works on view at Finale Art Gallery in Makati.

Karyuman is loosely defined as "being" or "existence."

In his depictions, the artist acknowledges the presence, the existence of people, objects and places. Except for the missing hair on the male figures, there's no "nothingness" or negation here. Everything is affirmed, everything just is.

In "Driver's Lounge," a space rectangle of a room

PAGE E2



"DRIVER'S Lounge"



PAINTINGS that meet at the corner of the gallery form a standing cross.

Bulacan artists interpret Christ in 'Kristo'

By Louise Lao

[illegible]









WORKS by Geri Reyes (top) and Ross Capili (bottom)

Stand out and favorite

[illegible]

'Kristo' Manila

[illegible]

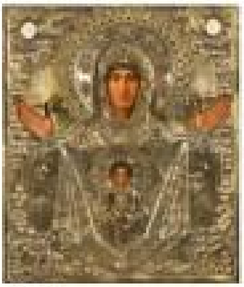


CLOCKWISE from upper left: works by Robert Doniego, Ferdinand Doctolero, Jeff Santarin and Orly Ypon.

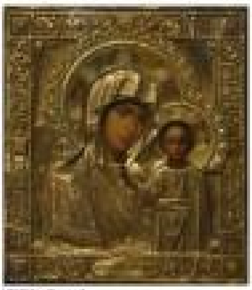
Del Monte Duo Named Team PANA Philippines for Cannes Lions 2011in June



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THE Holy Sign



VIRGIN of Kazan 2

Rare peek at Imelda Marcos' Russian icons



VIRGIN of Kazan 1

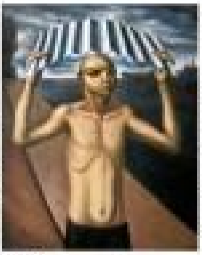
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Being Borlongan

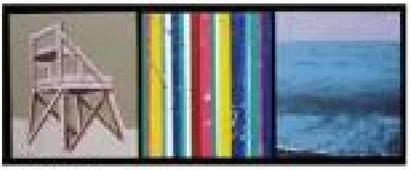








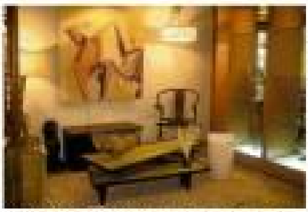
Zean Cabangis at Art Informal

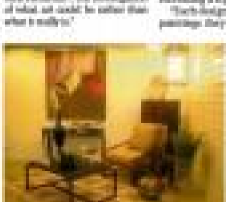


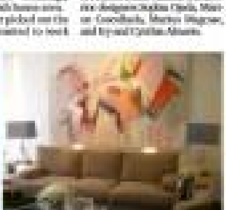




Art and interiors at Pietro

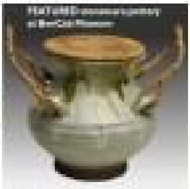






Visual Arts

Lyrgrd Paras, pottery at Bencab Museum



Tribute to Mañosa at Museo Walo

'Fresh Meat' at Sining Kamalig





Parial, Boquiren at José

From the Directors' Chairs Technology tells the Story



How can he forget?



Dynamic duo: Paul and Jeric Soriano





> "I can see the impact. Technology was very different back then, but the message that he was able to convey using that technology still carries on today. That's something I look at now, the challenge with technology is that, maybe in the future, will still be remarkable. What remains constant is the message."
>
> **PAUL SORIANO**



The son also rises



ENTERTAINMENT

Honed by the masters



Aga Muhlach counts himself lucky that he had the chance to work with Brocka and Bernal

INSIDE
Dingdong's dream role: Ninoy Aquino Take Five /F6



Country's biggest cinema chain goes fully digital





Sleepless young talent wins guitar 'shredding' contest





Reborn...

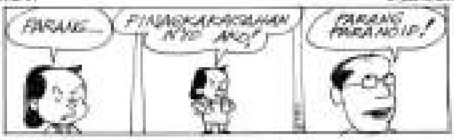




GARFIELD BY JIM DAVIS



A. LIPIN



PUGAD BABOY



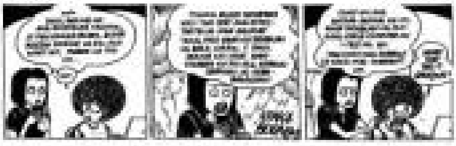
DICK TRACY



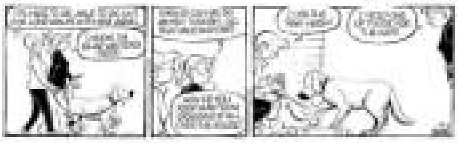


BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT

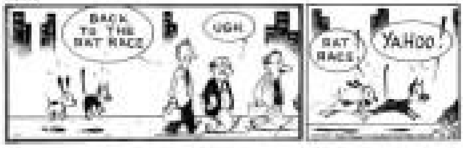




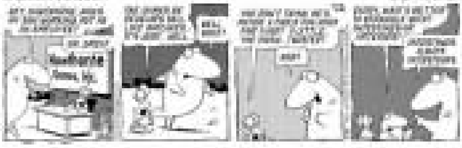
BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON



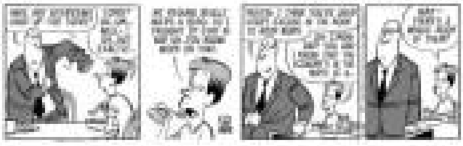
MUTTS

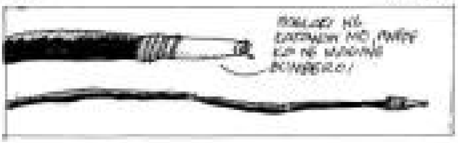


SHERMAN'S LAGOON BY JIM TOOMEY



DUSTIN BY STEVE KELLEY AND JEFF PARKER





HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCINE BRAVE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

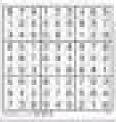
Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Conceptis Sudoku

4		8	5	6				3
						1	9	
				9	3	5		4
9	5			8		2		1
			3	1	2			
2		3		5			8	7
7		9	4	3				
	4	1						
8				7	9	4		2

Difficulty Level ★

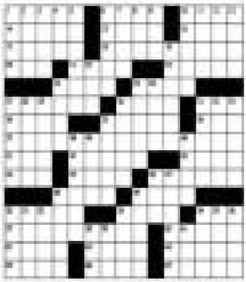
Answer to previous puzzle

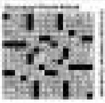


CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

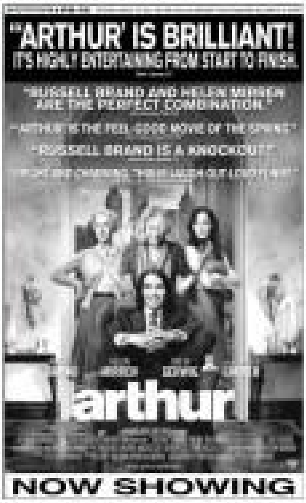
DOWN

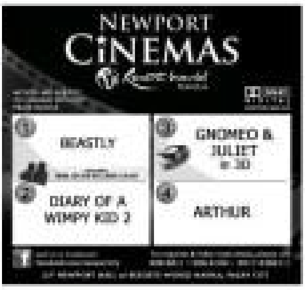




Dingdong's dream role: Ninoy Aquino

Country's biggest …



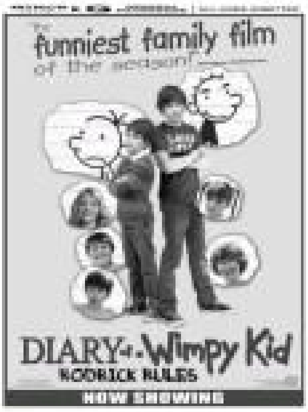


















Dingdong's dream role: Ninoy Aquino

TAKE FIVE



DINGDONG Dantes

Reborn to be 'wild'



DOLLY WOOD



Dolly Anne Carvajal



CHINA Cojuangco



ENTERTAINMENT





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ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

GALLERIA

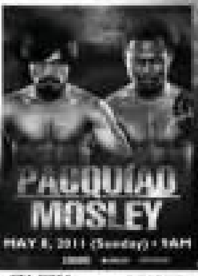
MANILA

METRO EAST

NOVALICHES

FORUM ROBINSONS

WATCH IT LIVE via SATELLITE



Get a chance to win an autographed Team Pacquiao boxing gloves!

BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!

STA. ROSA

LIPA

DASMARIÑAS

STARMILLS

IMUS

ANGELES

TACLOBAN

DUMAGUETE

BACOLOD

ILOILO

GENSAN

ILOCOS NORTE

MALL EVENTS

FABER-CASTELL FREE Art Workshop

MEET & GREET

PBA Atin To! Memorabilia Exhibit

Timely reminder from 'I Juander'



Cheryl's first wish: A baby

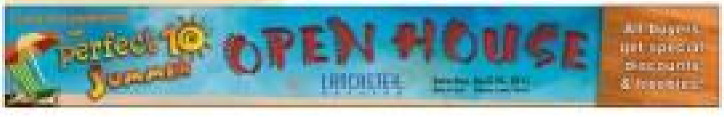
Children's rights

Another wish



Villain in new 'Hawaii Five-0' is part-Pinoy







Cheryl's first wish: A baby

Ambassador

Medical missions

LEARNING



Lea, Monique, Honey, and Winnie (and Noy, Bongbong, Jinggoy and us)





No pussy-footing

Carriers of culture, wisdom

The Story of Perseverance and Prue



"I can be a scientist. I can invent flying cars! I can open 'new worlds' for children by becoming a writer. I can even become a Kumon instructor." Prue, 9

Kumon and your child's potential

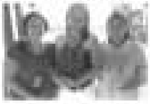
Playgrounds for the MIND

Member Schools

Unesco Director General Irina Bokova receives UST Quadricentennial Golden Cross Award



SSM AWARDS BEST EMPLOYEES FOR SY 2010-2011





New barangay health workers

Solar street lights on Miriam College campus

UE's 2011 Yearend Commencement Exercises

UA&P workshop for educators

Westfields' Summer Fun Camp

CCP CE course granted Paascu Level 2 accreditation

FEU takes part in 1st Volunteering Expo

Escolarians top Medical Technology Board Exams

GCIC participates in 'Run BGC'

Taguig to get new schoolbuilding



More than ready for college



Program provides free lunch to beneficiaries



Seminar on corporate housekeeping, April 28-29

Summer scholarship via essay writing contest



Pencils for your thoughts

A chance to make history



Transformational teachers

Transformational schools

Transformational systems

A sporting chance through education







By Linda B. Bolido

In the spot where the province of Cavite ends and neighboring Batangas begins, a field of dreams is taking shape. But unlike Kevin Costner's cinematic dream that was waiting to be built, the Spirit Sports College (SSC) is all set to open its doors officially in August and beckon to young stars and wannabes who aspire to take the sports route to fame and fortune.







The hospital will be the best-equipped facility for the management of sports injuries.

The 125-seat auditorium has equipment for tele-conferencing.

Serious business

Billion-dollar industry

> Team Spirit wants to specialize in sports management, sports technology, sports media, sports etc., without sacrificing academic curriculum

Sports village



